

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR PAT QUINN

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, February 16, 2012

CONTACT: Annie Thompson (o. 217-782-7355; c. 217-720-1853)

Dave Blanchette, CDB (o. 217-558-8970; c. 217-370-9223)

Governor Quinn Announces More Than \$623 Million in Capital Funds to Improve Schools Across Illinois

Funding Will Repair, Update and Build Schools to Serve Students

HAZEL CREST – February 16, 2012. Governor Pat Quinn today announced that Illinois school districts statewide will receive a total of more than \$623 million from *Illinois Jobs Now!* to construct new buildings or expand, repair and update existing ones. This capital funding will provide needed classroom space, while supporting an estimated 4,000 construction jobs throughout the state.

"In order for our students to compete for the jobs of tomorrow, we must ensure they are receiving a quality education in quality school facilities," Governor Quinn said. "This capital funding will help school districts across the state update their facilities and make critical repairs to improve the educational experience for our students."

Thirty-one districts statewide were approved for the state funding this fiscal year after their projects were certified by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and the Illinois Capital Development Board (CDB).

The funding will allow districts to build new schools, add new classrooms, and make renovations to aging buildings. Other improvements will include renovations to existing classrooms ,upgrades to aging facilities and additional technology updates. The capital funding, combined with local dollars, will allow school districts to complete projects totaling more than \$1.2 billion.

The school districts that will receive funding include:

- Chicago Public Schools District 299, \$114.67 million
- St. Charles Community Unit School District 303, \$7.66 million
- Wheaton Community Unit School District 200, \$14.46 million
- Harvard Community Unit School District 50, \$13.81 million
- Peoria School District 150, \$34.61 million
- Huntley Consolidated School District 158, \$39.41 million
- Orland School District 135, Orland Park, \$5.33 million
- Brookfield-LaGrange Park School District 95, \$3.11 million
- Crete-Monee School District 201-U, \$23.28 million
- Millstadt Consolidated School District 160, \$4.29 million
- Knoxville Community Unit School District 202, \$20.22 million
- Wilmington Community Unit School District 209-U, \$9.28 million
- Berwyn North Elementary District 98, \$7.59 million
- Wesclin Community Unit School District 3, Trenton, \$18.87 million
- Stark County Community Unit School District 100, \$3.69 million



OFFICE OF GOVERNOR PAT QUINN

NEWS

- Virginia Community Unit School District 64, \$12.26 million
- Skokie School District 69, \$1.32 million
- Burbank School District 111, \$9.87 million
- Shawnee Community Unit School District 84, Union County, \$2.04 million
- Manhattan School District 114, \$5.84 million
- Paris Cooperative High School, \$24.22 million
- Homer Community Consolidated School District 33-C, Homer Glen, \$4.54 million
- Warren Township High School District 121, Gurnee, \$11.53 million
- Panhandle Community Unit School District 2, Raymond, \$3.86 million
- Spring Valley Elementary District 99, \$12.23 million
- Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231, \$12.32 million
- Ramsey Community Unit School District 204, \$3.92 million
- Mt. Vernon Township High School District 201, \$47.62 million
- Hazel Crest School District 152.5, \$32.22 million
- Calumet Township School District 132, Calumet Park, \$12.36 million
- Marion Community Unit School District 2, \$56.62 million.

Governor Quinn also announced today that the state is making available \$50 million in School Maintenance Grant Program grants. The dollar-for-dollar state matching grant program provides up to \$50,000 in matching funds for the maintenance or upkeep of buildings or structures for educational purposes. The grant applications for districts will be available soon.

Before the passage of Governor Quinn's *Illinois Jobs Now!* capital construction program, Illinois had not had a major capital construction program in more than a decade. The Governor has made it a priority to invest in our schools and update our classrooms to provide Illinois students with the best quality education experience possible.

###